

# *Executive Proclamation*

## *State of South Dakota*

### *Office of the Governor*

*Whereas*, Eugene and Norma Merchant exchanged their wedding vows, promising to share their lives and love together for the rest of their days; and,

*Whereas*, The newlywed couple of 50 years ago has been replaced by two devoted partners who have shared life's beauty and sorrow, and have grown to love one another more because of their common journey; and,

*Whereas*, Through their lifelong dedication to the values of caring and sharing, Eugene and Norma have helped make South Dakota a great place to live and work; and,

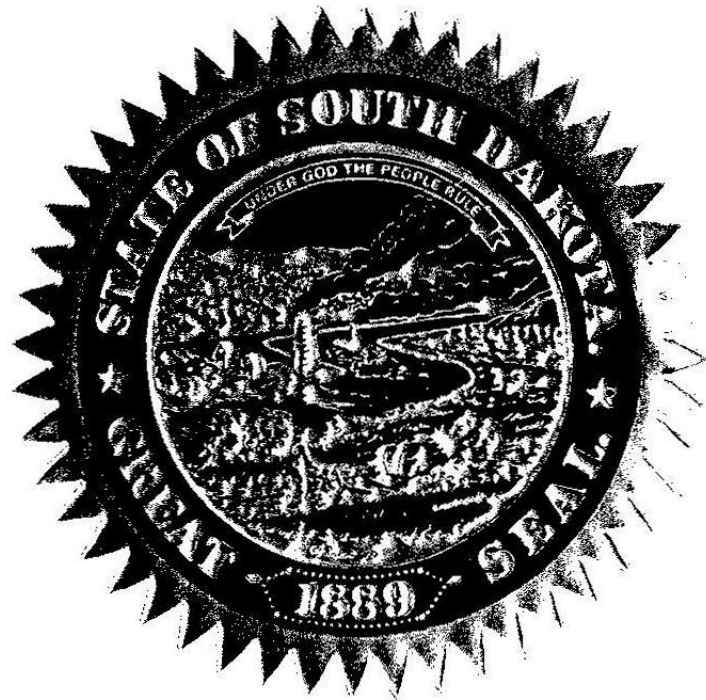
*Whereas*, Eugene and Norma will celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with all the good wishes, fanfare and celebration such a milestone warrants; and,

*Whereas*, It is altogether fitting and proper that the Governor of South Dakota recognizes and commemorates the memorable occasions in the lives of the state's outstanding citizens:

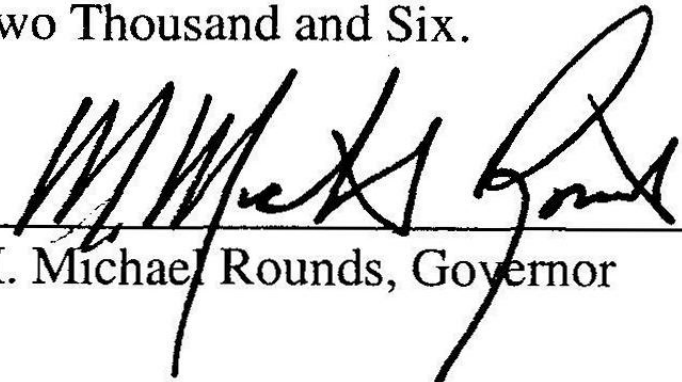
*Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds*, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim October 16, 2006, as

### *EUGENE AND NORMA MERCHANT DAY*


in South Dakota, and I join with the honored couple's family and friends in wishing them continued health and happiness in a state that stands prouder today because of their contributions and commitment.



*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twentieth Day of September in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Six.

  
M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

  
Chris Nelson, Secretary of State